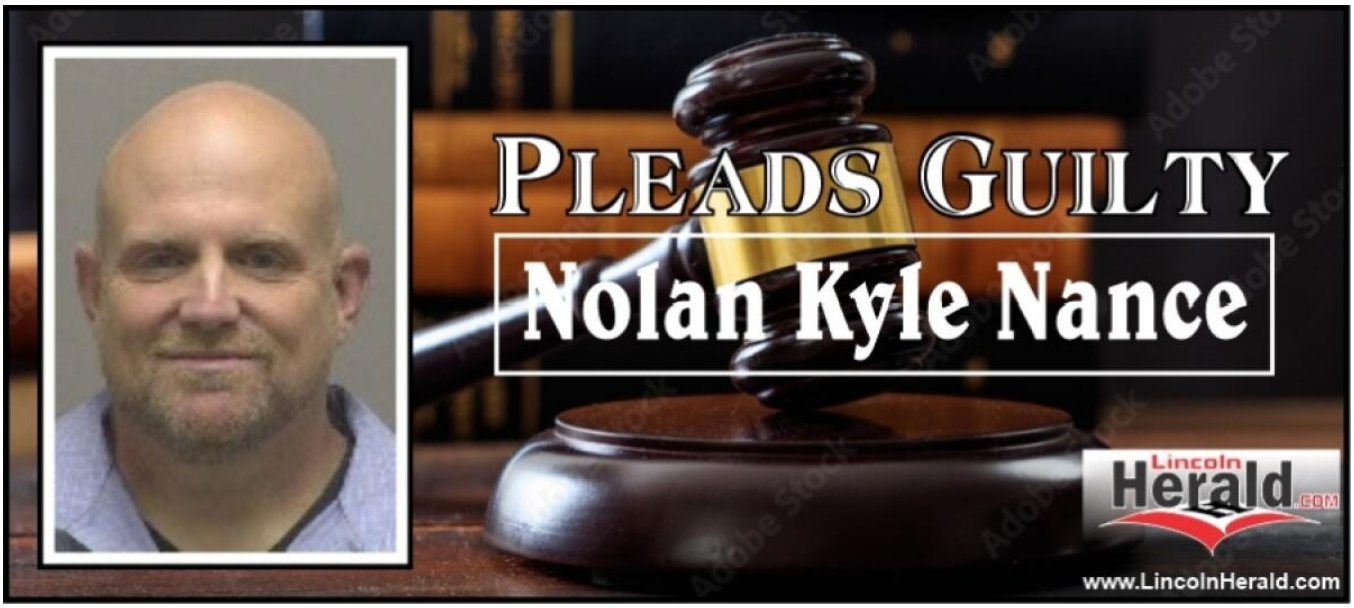

Vale Man Pleads Guilty to Child Sexual Exploitation Charges Following Joint Investigation

Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

LINCOLNTON, N.C.—On October 28, 2026, in Lincoln County Superior Court, Nolan Kyle Nance, of Vale, North Carolina, pleaded guilty to three counts of Second-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor and one count of Third-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor.

The Honorable Sally Kirby-Turner sentenced Nance to an active term of 6 to 17 months in the North Carolina Department of Adult Corrections. The active sentence will be followed by a suspended sentence of 25 to 90 months and three years of supervised probation. Upon his release from the Department of Adult Corrections, Nance will be required to register as a sex offender for a period of 30 years.

The conviction is the result of a joint investigation launched in October 2025 by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

During the investigation, detectives and agents uncovered child sexual abuse material (CSAM) on electronic devices belonging to Nance.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the FBI for its partnership and assistance throughout this investigation.